

Remarks

Currently Claims 1-12 and 15 are pending. Claims 13-14 are canceled. Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-12 are amended herein. Claims 1 and 10-12 are amended to correct inadvertent clerical errors. Claims 3-5, 7, 9 and 12 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies for the purpose of reducing claim fees. Claims 8, 10 and 11 are amended to remove parenthetical expressions. The amendments do not narrow the scope of the claims and no new matter is added.

New claim 15 is added. Support for this claim can be found in Applicants' original specification, including at original claims 13-14 and page 14, lines 13-21.

The specification has been amended to recite cross-references to related applications and to provide an abstract on a separate page.

Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for substantive examination, which action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (919) 483-8222, to discuss this case, if desired.

Respectfully submitted,



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10 Jan 2005
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